



Express Mail No. EVEV904401701US  
Docket No.: 418268837US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Allyn et al.

Application No.: 10/716,761

Confirmation No.: 6182

Filed: November 19, 2003

Art Unit: 2176

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SELECTING  
AND MANIPULATING MULTIPLE OBJECTS

Examiner: M. K. Botts

**Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Barry Christopher Allyn, declare and state that:

1. I am an employee of Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, WA, which is the assignee of the above-identified application.

2. I have a degree in Computer Science from The Pennsylvania State University, in 1992. I have more than 14 years of experience in software programming and engineering. I am currently a Software Developer. My duties include planning, designing and implementing new versions of Microsoft Visio and Microsoft Office. Prior to joining Microsoft I was a software developer at Visio Coporation, InfoModelers Inc, Asymetrix Corporation and Revelation Technologies. I am familiar with the level of knowledge of one skilled in the art in the software programming and engineering field.

3. I have reviewed the specification and drawings and the pending claims in the above-identified application.

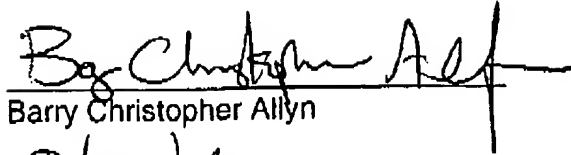
4. It is my opinion that as of November 19, 2003 one skilled in the art after reviewing the specification and drawings could have added the features of the currently claimed invention to a graphics software application (e.g., Visio) with less than one month of effort. One skilled in the art, upon reviewing the specification and drawings, would know how to implement all the features of the invention as discussed below.

5. It is my opinion that one skilled in the art had the requisite skill and knowledge to build a software application that receives information from a computer input device relating to the selection of objects.

6. It is my opinion that one skilled in the art had the requisite skill and knowledge to build a software application that displays an object with handles on a computer display that bounds selected objects.

7. It is my opinion that one skilled in the art had the requisite skill and knowledge to build a software application that automatically configures the bounded objects for being manipulated using the handles for object manipulation.

8. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

  
Barry Christopher Allyn  
8/21/06  
Date